

Teams move to championships

By Gary Webb
High school basketball coach

Lady Lancers

The Lady Blue Lancers earned a berth to the Central European Championships by beating London Central 50 - 35 in Saturday's game for third place in the U.K. Championship Tournament.

Shamika Hall scored 17 and the Aja Robinson added 10. Tiffany Smallwood scored 24 for the Bobcats.

The American School in London and Cobham were scheduled to meet in the championship game but Cobham forfeited as they couldn't field a team because most of their varsity team went on holiday after the Feb. 14 games.

The American School in London invited conference champions Lakenheath Red Lancers to an exhibition game in lieu of the title match. The American School started off strong and had Red down by 20 early but couldn't battle Red's strength inside and lost 50 - 34.

Red's final record was 11 - 2 and 10 - 0 in the conference. They lost to the American School in London and Cobham in preseason action when Lisa Webb was out with a ripped Achilles tendon. Her cast was removed the week conference play started and Red hasn't lost since. They beat both teams in conference play.

All Conference awards were presented to Hall from Blue and to Keara Keller, Nicole Brown and Webb from Red. Aja Robinson from Blue made Honorable Mention. Hall and Robinson were selected All Tournament. The Red girls weren't eligible for All Tournament because the game vs. the American School in London was an exhibition.

Boy Lancers

The Boy Red Lancers were seeded No. 1 and didn't disappoint the large turnout at the base gym. They started by

beating the London Central Bobcats 67 - 48 in the conference semifinal Feb. 14.

Almost all of the team played in the contest. Senior Detrick Bush led the Lancers with 19 points and 10 rebounds. Otis Anderson, a junior, had 17 points, eight rebounds, three blocks, and two back-to-back dunks that really brought the crowd to it's feet. Anderson, a dorm resident, was inspired as his parents were there to watch. This was the first game his parents were able to attend this season.

"Red is truly blessed with the support from the boys' parents," said Red Lancer coach Jim Garvey. "Many of the parents even make the away games. We've had a terrific season and I believe the parents are a big part of our success. We couldn't do it without their support. Just look at Otis today. He played fantastic!"

Chris Mazowieski, known as Majic, chipped in 12 points and shut down the Bobcat point guard JP Catrall. Point guard Gary Webb hit for six points and seven assists. Freshman DeShawn Campbell provided immediate firepower with seven points.

The Red Lancers then met Cobham in the United Kingdom tournament finals Saturday. The Cobham boys fielded seven players as most of the team had left. Two of their starting varsity team stayed to play, Scott Cosgrove and his brother Chris. Scott averages more than 40 points per game and scored 47 to beat Red in overtime in their previous game.

Red wasn't about to let history repeat itself and exploded for 24 points in the first quarter. They never looked back in an 87 - 62 victory.

Bush led his team with 24 points, 13 rebounds, four assists, and three steals. Anderson had 20 points and 12 rebounds. Richard Weikart, a senior, had 14 and Majic had 12. Webb had four assists and four steals. Freshman DeShawn Campbell added another eight



Photo by A1C Robert H. Gerlach

Chris Mazowieski (43) and Richard Wykart go for the rebound against Cobham's No. 20 as Detrick Bush looks on.

points. All the players made a contribution in the final game and a crowd favorite TJ Roman received a standing ovation when he entered the game.

Receiving All Conference awards were Bush and Majic from Red and Joshua Johnson and Will Young from Blue. All Conference Honorable Mention was awarded to Delonte Deeton from Blue. All Tournament awards went to Anderson and Bush from Red and Young from Blue.

"I believe the conference should have an All Defensive Team," said Red Lancer coach Dexter Mitchell. "All good coaches know that free throws

win games and defense wins championships. Majic, Webb, and Bush give us that defense.

"We win the hustle battle every game because of these three. I put Webb or Majic on the other teams best players and we shut them down. If there was an All-Defense conference team, these three and Chris "Smoky" Hale from Blue would be on it. In addition, I don't know who picked the refs but they did an awesome job."

The Red teams left Tuesday for an all night bus ride to Mannheim, Germany, with the Blue girls team.

Lakenheath finally has a chance to win it all.